**Decrease in the tourist traffic to Gujarat**

1123 SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA. Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the tourist traffic to the State of Gujarat have shown decrease during the last two years,

(b) if so, the details in this regard and what steps are being contemplated to increase tourist traffic both domestic and international to the State of Gujarat; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Central Government have not provided inadequate assistance for construction of low-budget hostels on the pattern of "Ashok Yatri Niwas" and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SMT. USHA SINGH) (a) and (b) As per the information available from the State Government, the number of tourists, both domestic and foreign, who visited Gujarat during the last 2 years and first 9 months of the current year along with the percentage change are as given below.—

| Year | Number | % Change |
|---|---|---|
| 1988 | 1,07,296 | — |
| 1989 | 1,11,456 | 3.9 |
| 1990 (Jan-Sept) | 66,232 | —23.5* |

*Compared to corresponding period of previous year.

The steps being taken by the Government to increase tourist traffic to the State include strengthening of tourism infrastructure and, marketing and promotion of new-destinations and attractions

(c) No, Sir

**Setting up of Consumer Grievances Cell**

1124 SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have set up a consumer Grievances Cell;

(b) if so, whether Government also propose to frame rules to deal with speedily and effectively, the problems faced by the consumers,

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) to what extent the grievances cell and rules framed in this regard would curb price rise and the consumers would get quality products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR HUSSAIN): (a) to (d) Government has already enacted the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 which provides for a three tier redressal machinery at national, state and district level to deal with consumer grievances in the field of defective goods, deficient services, unfair trade practices and excess price charged over and above price fixed by or under any law for the time being in force or displayed on the goods or any package containing such goods. Rules have been framed by the Central Government and the State Governments under the above Act to provide simple, inexpensive and speedy redressal to consumer grievances. In addition, Government has,

recently, designated an officer in the Department as Director of Consumer Grievances to deal with consumer grievances expeditiously.

**Construction of dwelling units by DDA for slum dwellers**

1125. DR G VIJYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state whether Delhi Development Authority propose to construct 80,000 units for slum dwellers, if so, the details thereof and progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN). There is no proposal or scheme for construction of 80,000 units for slum dwellers by the DDA. However, the Delhi Administration has drawn up a three pronged strategy to improve the living conditions in the jhuggi jhonpri clusters as follows:—

(a) relocation and resettlement of jhuggi jhonpri dwellers from the land urgently required for immediate projects,

(b) provision of minimum basic amenities in J J Clusters on such public lands as are earmarked for public projects but which may not be required for implementation of such project immediately

(c) *in-situ* upgradation of identified J. J. Clusters situated on public land which are not earmarked for any project under the relocation and *in-situ* upgradation.

Under the above strategy Delhi Development Authority has relocated 1596 jhuggi jhonpri families and also covered 6550 jhuggi jhonpuri families under in *situ* upgradation.

**Closure of transport activities in ITDC**

1126 SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that from some years back a calculated move is going on under the pressure of some private transport/tour operators and ITDC competitors to get closed down ITDC's all India Transport activities/services in a phased manner;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what is the factual position in this regard and the list of Transport Unit/services alongwith the type of vehicles and man-power deployment, investment etc which were available at each Transport Unit/Station during 1980-81 and as on November, 1990, and

(c) the aims and objectives ITDC started its Travel Agency (Ashok Travel and Tours) in a particular year with details of man-power deployment and investment in the beginning, its manpower, investment exp. and achievements during 1985-86 and as on 30th November, 1990?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SMT.) USHA SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Having played the role of catalytic agent resulting in provision of transport facilities by the State Governments/Private Operators, ITDC has gradually reduced the number of vehicles/Transport Units from time-to time

(b) The unitwise list of fleet strength during 1980-81 and the capital employed as on 31 3.81 is given in Statement (*See* below) The unitwise fleet strength during 1990-91 as in Nov. 90) and capital employed as on 31-3-90 is given in Statement II (*See* below). The man-power deployment during 1980-81 and as on 30-11-90 is given in Statement III (*See* below).

(c) A Travel Agency to ITDC was set up in Oct. 81 to handle in-bound tours to the country and promote ITDC hotels. To start with, a small nucleus with one Manager and one tour assistant supported by two secretarial staff was the manpower deployed on the travel agency business Initially, the investment was in the form of working capital to the tune of Rs 5 82 lakhs as on 31.3 82

The business of the travel agency has been expanding by addition of handling package tours, airline ticketing (both domestic and international) etc During 1985-86 the travel agency made a profit of Rs. 23 22 lakhs and the capital employed on its activities stood at Rs 66,97 lakhs with a staff strength of 29 as on 31.3.86.